

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE 1981-1982

During the 1981-82 academic year, the Faculty Senate met in nine regularly scheduled sessions (meetings 34-42). In addition, one special meeting was held on September 30, 1981 to consider plans for Fall Commencement.

SENATE VISITORS

At the October meeting, Wendell Tucker, Director of Personnel, outlined the University's health insurance costs and the options available. The Senate heard further reports on health insurance in February and May. At the April meeting, Professor Walter Cartwright, Chairperson of the Minority Affairs Committee, gave Senators information on the University's response to the Federal Deregulation Task Force, a response which placed Affirmative Action as the University's first priority for deregulation. The Senate requested that the administration amend its submission to indicate clearly that objection is not to Affirmative Action, but to excessive paperwork. Mr. Julio Llanas, University Affirmative Action Officer, described his office's programs to Senators at the May meeting. He described his office's negotiations with the Department of Labor and present data on minority and female faculty. Professor Kice presented information to the Senate at the May meeting on the proposed revision of the University's copyright policy.

AD HOC COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The Ad Hoc Committee for the Study of Tenure Procedures reported in September and December. The Committee issued no final report, but it did make a number of recommendations to the administration. In particular, the members of the committee seemed to agree that the Tenure and Privilege Committee is the committee responsible for giving preliminary consideration to allegations that tenure was denied for reasons violative of academic freedom.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

The following committees reported to the Senate during 1981-82:

- A. Undergraduate Programs Committee - At the September meeting the Senate approved an amended set of recommendations from this committee concerning pass/fail. These recommendations would restrict the number of required hours eligible to be taken pass/fail.
- B. Committee on Committees - The Committee on Committees reported actions at the September, October, December, January, February, March, and May meetings involving slates of nominees for University and Senate committees.
- C. Faculty Status and Welfare Committee - This Committee was charged with exploring the availability of a better meeting place for the Senate. It reported at the November and February meetings that no better site seems available.
- D. Budget Study Committee - The Budget Study Committee reported in January on the proportion of raise monies allocated for 1981-82 to the several colleges and schools and to departments within colleges. It also compared these figures with those for 1980-81 and reported on raises received by administrators.

E. Study Committee A - This committee reported in January, recommending greater publicity be given to the official policy in cheating cases. The Senate approved this recommendation. It reported in April on the problems of bomb threats and burglary of faculty offices, describing the University's policies and procedures on these matters.

F. Study Committee B - Committee B offered a series of recommendations in May concerning evaluation of faculty development proposals. The Senate forwarded five amended recommendations to the Vice-President for Academic Affairs.

G. Study Committee C - Committee C in December recommended, and the Senate concurred, that the Senate not pursue the matter of hiring legal counsel for the faculty.

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED AND OTHER ACTIONS TAKEN

Commencement - After learning of plans for a Fall Commencement at its September meeting, the Senate called a special meeting for September 30 to discuss the subject further. At this meeting, the Senate approved four recommendations for strengthening the proposed Fall Commencement. In addition, at its February meeting, the Senate recommended that the administration take steps to "encourage faculty participation in commencement."

Faculty Development Fund - At the December and April meetings, the Senate passed resolutions applying funds given the Senate by the Ex-Students' Association to the 1982-83 development grants program. At the March meeting the Senate commended Vice-President Darling for increasing faculty development opportunities.

Energy Usage and Conservation Committee - The Senate approved a charge and a structure for this Committee at its December meeting.

Revised Tenure Policy - The Senate recommended in January procedures to be followed "for faculty consideration and adoption of the revised tenure policy." It also discussed the matter at some length with Vice-President Darling at this meeting and at the February and April meetings.

Library Photocopying - At the January meeting the Senate approved a resolution requesting investigation of the photocopying service in the University Library. It heard reports on the matter at its February, March, and April meetings.

Senate Officers - Officers for the 1982-83 year were elected at the March meeting. They are: President, Virginia M. Sowell; Vice-President, Neale J. Pearson; Secretary, Lloyd V. Urban.

Honor Lists - The Senate recommended in March establishment of a Dean's Honor List and of a President's Honor List for students with specified Grade Point Averages.

Academic Excellence - In April the Senate referred President Cavazos's letter concerning ways of achieving academic excellence to various Senate and University committees.

Standing Committees - In April the Senate changed the Graduate Programs Committee to Senate Standing Study Committee D and changed the name of the Undergraduate Programs Committee to the Academic Programs Committee.

Dean Search Committees - The Senate recommended at its April meeting that search committees for deans be composed largely of faculty members.

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